



National Council of State Boards of Nursing, Inc.
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November 10, 2004

Wanda Miller, MA, RN, NCSN, FNASN
Executive Director,
National Association of School Nurses
1416 Park Street, Suite A
Castle Rock, CO 80109

Dear Ms. Miller:

In response to your recent correspondence, NCSBN understands that the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) believes that the school nurse should retain management of in-school diabetes care, as it requires ongoing assessment and monitoring by a licensed professional, preferably a school nurse or physician. You noted that bills regarding this topic have been introduced in the following states: IL, RI, NJ, PA, SC, TN, & VT, and that the states of CA, CT, MT, NC, VA, WA & WI have reportedly passed some form of this legislation. Additionally your correspondence asked state boards of nursing to consider the legal question of whether school staff can be legally or ethically trained to perform complex procedures as injections and glucose testing. Another question you noted was the role state boards of nursing might play or have played in shaping this legislation/regulation.

NCSBN facilitated a recent conference call and Boards of Nursing were very responsive to your concerns, and had much to say regarding how these issues were being debated in their respective jurisdictions. The issues the NASN raised need to be addressed by each state individually and we encourage you to work with the Boards of Nursing individually. NCSBN has made all the Boards of Nursing aware of your concerns and the steps fellow member boards have taken regarding these issues. If NASN has further questions or concerns, please feel free to bring those to the 60 state and territorial boards of nursing directly, as they are the legal entities that would need to address your concerns.

Thank you again for bringing this matter to the attention of NCSBN. It was our pleasure to bring your information to our members for their consideration and dialogue. If future issues arise that you wish to communicate with the 60 boards of nursing, or if you have any questions, please contact Kristin Hellquist, NCSBN, and Director of Policy & Government Relations at 312.525.3665 or khellquist@ncsbn.org.

Sincerely,

Donna M. Dorsey, MS, RN, FAAN
President, NCSBN

cc: Kathy Apple, NCSBN Executive Director
NCSBN Board of Directors
NCSBN Member Boards
Kristin Hellquist, NCSBN Director of Policy & Government Relations